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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of

Fumio NEGORO

Serial No. 10/018,692



Group Art Unit:

International Application Filed: June 20, 2000 : Examiner:

For: SOFTWARE DETERMINATION METHOD, A PROCESSING APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENTHonorable Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the documents listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the documents be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the documents be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g) and (h), the filing of this IDS should not be construed as a representation that a search had been made or that information cited is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 (b), or that any cited document listed or attached is (or constitutes) prior art. Unless otherwise indicated, the date of publication indicated for an item is taken from the face of the item, and Applicant reserves the right to prove that the date of publication is in fact different.

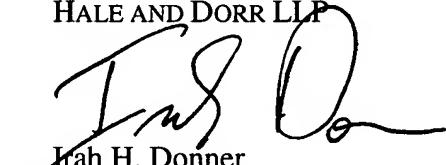
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Copies of the documents listed on page 3 of Form PTO-1449, some of which were cited in the prosecution of the corresponding PCT patent application, are enclosed. A copy of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report for the PCT patent application have previously been submitted.

No fee is believed to be required; however, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiency in any fees pursuant to 37 CFR § 1.17 associated with this communication and to credit any excess payment to Deposit Account No. 08-0219.

Respectfully submitted,

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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to Applicant.